

For her fine record through two administrations as a State vice-president in broadening the Auxiliary's scope of interest and increasing its field of services,

For her leadership during two and a half years as county president, when she built the membership to the largest county group in the country,

For the joy she finds in her work,

For the inspiration she carries to others,

For her fearless pioneering spirit,

For the trueness of her friendship,

We, the members of the Los Angeles County Medical Auxiliary, dedicate this, the 1936 edition of our year-book.

After consideration of what the California State and County Auxiliaries have accomplished in eight brief years, must we not agree that all members of the California Medical Association may well be proud of the Auxiliaries, and the loyal women who make up the membership and carry on the work of these accessory units so efficient to scientific and organized medicine?

ARMY MEDICAL LIBRARY

The Army Medical Library of Washington, D. C.—Far out as we are, on the Pacific Coast, we may be pardoned if, at times, we seem to forget the immense service rendered by some of the medical institutions and activities headquartered along the Atlantic seaboard. Not the least among these is the Army Medical Library, located at Seventh Street and Independence Avenue, S. W., Washington, D. C., which will become, it is hoped, in the not far distant future, an adjunct of the Army's Walter Reed Hospital of that city.

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Tribute to Army Medical Library by the Late William H. Welch.—It was of this library that the late William H. Welch of Johns Hopkins said:

I have been asked on more than one occasion what have been the really great contributions of this country to medical knowledge. I have given the subject some thought, and think that four should be named:

1. The discovery of anesthesia.
2. The discovery of insect transmission of disease.
3. The development of the modern public health laboratory, in all that the term implies.
4. The Army Medical Library and its *Index-Catalogue*; and this library and its catalogue are the *most important* of the four.

The Army Medical Library's bigness is shown in its possession of more than one million volumes or items, and of some 450 of the 600 volumes printed prior to or shortly after the year 1500. The oldest of these medical incunabula in the Army Medical Library is Johannes Gerson's *De pollutione nocturna*, from a Cologne press under date of 1467.

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The Late Colonel John Shaw Billings.—In 1936 the Army Medical Library—known up to some fifteen years ago as the Library of the Surgeon-General's office—was one hundred years old. In its growth, it owed its greatest development to the late Colonel John Shaw Billings, a graduate of the Medical Schools of the Uni-

versity of Cincinnati (Miami-Medical College of Ohio), who, as early as 1876, outlined the type and scope of the *Index-Catalogue*, destined to appear, between 1880 and 1895, in sixteen large quarto volumes. In 1879, a monthly catalogue, the *Index Medicus*, was brought off the press by Billings, but the publication, maintained for a while by private subscription, was not able to survive; and in 1899 efforts were made to have the Carnegie Foundation take over its production. This was accomplished, for the period 1903-1927, when again a new sponsor was found in the American Medical Association, which merged it with its own *Quarterly Cumulative Index*, established in 1916, making it the *Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus*.

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The Largest Medical Library in the World. The Army Medical Library of the United States has the largest collection of medical books in the world, and the service it has rendered to American and World Medicine is hard to estimate. Its worth is splendidly attested in a tribute from the late William Osler, who, as long ago as 1912, wrote: "Probably few men in the profession owe a deeper debt of gratitude to the Surgeon-General's Library than I." As part of the Library's activities, it maintains the Army Medical Museum, also the largest of its kind anywhere.

It is well for California physicians to keep the Army Medical Library in mind, because it extends its facilities to the medical libraries of the State, and, through them, to the physicians of California.

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Army Medical Library Worthy of Congressional Appropriations.—The record of great achievement by the Army Medical Library makes it proper for component county societies to inform the United States Senators and Congressmen from California* that the physicians of the Golden State are in full sympathy with the proposed annual federal appropriations, to provide adequately not only for additions to the volumes already in the Library and give full support to the *Index-Catalogue*, but also to make ample provision for adequate housing in the proposed building to be erected on the new site adjacent to the Walter Reed Hospital in Washington.

THE QUESTION—CAN A CORPORATION PRACTICE MEDICINE IN CALIFORNIA?: THE STATE'S ANSWER TO THE CORPORATION'S APPEAL TO THE CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT

An Interesting and Important Brief.—On February 4, 1937, the Hon. U. S. Webb, Attorney-General of the State of California, and Lionel Browne, Deputy Attorney-General, as legal representatives for the Respondent (The People of the State of California, *ex rel.*, State Board of Medical Examiners), filed their brief in the appeal

*For list of United States Congressmen from California, see page 208.